



NEWS RELEASE

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Robber Convicted in Clerk's Murder

A 35-year-old man has been found guilty of first-degree murder for shooting a discount store clerk during a robbery, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

A jury on Monday also found true the special circumstance allegation that Eric William Atkinson (dob 4/10/82) committed the murder during a robbery, Deputy District Attorney Joel Wilson said. Additionally, Atkinson was convicted of one count each of witness intimidation and possession of a firearm by a felon.

Atkinson is scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 9 in Department 104 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center and faces a maximum possible sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

On Sept. 17, 2013, Atkinson entered the store in the 7400 block of South Broadway in Los Angeles, where he fatally shot employee Martha Sanchez, a married mother of five children. A store surveillance video captured the shooting.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Criminal Gang and Homicide Division investigated case BA418132.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.